

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14

AID-20 DRC-01 /137 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2011

INFO USIA WASHDC

21AFCP MCGUIRE AFB NJ

CSAF WASHDC

MAC SCOTT AFB ILL

436 MAW DOVER AFB DEL

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS CARACAS 10427

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: USAF C5-A DEMONSTRATION VISIT

1. SUMMARY: VISIT DURING 1-3 DECEMBER BY USAF C-5A GALAXY WAS HIGHPOINT OF GOV INAUGURATION OF NEW MAIQUETIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FACILITIES. COL. JAMES JONES AND CREW ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR COMPLETE COOPERATION AND FINE SENSE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, TO INCLUDE MY AIRA WHO ASSISTED THROUGHOUT.

2. THE USAF C-5A, BROUGHT TO VENEZUELA AT THE BEHEST OF AMBASSADOR ROBERT MCCLINTOCK AND DATT/AIRA COL. NEWELL D. MITCHELL, TOUCHED DOWN AT MAIQUETIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, BEFORE A CROWD OF DIGNITARIES AND NEWSMEN.

3. AMONG THOSE ON HAND TO MEET THE AIRCRAFT AND ITS CREW WERE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS ENRIQUE BUSTAMANTE LUCIANI, WIFE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER SRA. ADELA DE CALVANI, A BEVVY OF VENEZUELAN MILITARY OFFICERS, THE OWNERS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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DIRECTORS OF FIVE COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA, AMBASSADOR AND

MRS. MCCLINTOCK, AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS HARRY W. SCHLAUDEMANN.

4. PARKING NEXT TO AN AEROFLOT ILLUSHYN 62, WHOSE CREW
SUBSEQUENTLY MOVED THEIR CRAFT TO
THE OTHER END OF THE AIRPORT, THE C-5A CREW PROCEEDED TO
DISCHARGE THEIR TOWING TRACTOR AND TAKE ABOARD THE AMBASSADOR'S
LIMOUSINE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S SEDAN. ALL THIS ACTION
WAS DULY FILMED BY AWED CAMERAMEN FOR TELEVISION. THE
INVITED DIGNITARIES THEN BOARDED THE AIRCRAFT FOR AN HOUR LONG
DEMONSTRATION FLIGHT OVER EASTERN VENEZUELA.

5. SUNDAY'S ACTIVITIES BEGAN WITH THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW
RUNWAY BY VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT RAFAEL CALDERA. THE CEREMONY
TERMINATED WITH A FLY-BY OF THE C-51A, THE RUSSIAN AIRCRAFT, A
FRENCH-GERMAN TRANSALL C-160, VENEZUELAN AIR FORCE CF-5'S,
MIRAGE FIGHTERS AND OV-10'S.

6. DURING THE DAY ON SUNDAY THE AIRCRAFT WAS OPENED FOR PUBLIC
WALK-THROUGH VISITS AND MADE ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION FLIGHT OVER
THE CAPITAL CITY WITH SUCH LUMINARIES AS M/G LEAL TORRES,
IG OF THE ARMED FORCES REPRESENTING THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE;
M/G GOMEZ MUNOZ, RETIRED CHIEF OF STAFF, VENEZUELAN AIR
FORCE; B/G SUCRE FIGARELLA, CHIEF OF STAFF, VENEZUELAN ARMY;
ADM DELGADO COLMENARES, ASST IG, ARMED FORCES; ADM DOMINGUEZ
GARCIA, VICE COMMANDER VENEZUELAN NAVY; ADM RURA
PAREDES, COMMANDER VENEZUELAN MARINE CORPS; NUMEROUS
AIRPORT OFFICIALS AND THE ENGINEERS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSTRUCTION
OF THE NEW FACILITY.

7. BY THE TIME OF DEPARTURE DECEMBER 3, COL JAMES JONES
AND HIS ENTIRE CREW HAD PROVED THEMSELVES TO BE PROFESSIONAL
AMONGST PROFESSIONALS. THEIR WILLING AZBUZBKV AND FRIENDLY
CONDUCT DURING THEIR STAY IN VENEZUELA CLASSIFIED THEM AS
EXEMPLARY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE WHO
MATERIALLY ASSISTED THIS EMBASSY IN DEMONSTRATING THE
ADVANCED STATE OF AMERICAN AVIONICS TECHNOLOGY.
MCCLINTOCK

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